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Ute Indians in Washington

Attending hearings in Washington on program to divide Ute Indian assets between mixed and full-bloods were, standing, Russell Cuch, and Conner Chapoose, full-blooded Ute delegates; Albert Harris, delegate for the mixed bloods; John S. Boyden, Salt Lake City attorney; R. O. Curry, Ute Tribal business manager; Radph Gelvin, Phoenix, Arizona, area Indian director; and Supt. Harry Gilmore, of the Uintah-Ouray Reservation. Seated are Rep. E. Y. Berry, chairman of the House Indian Affairs Committee; Glenn L. Emmons, commissioner of Indian Affairs; and Sen. Arthur V. Watkins, chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee and hearing chairman. —Courtesy Tribune

Bill to Divide Ute Indian Assets Passes Senate Indian Subcommittee

Legislation authorizing the division of tribal assets between the mixed-blood and full-blood Utes of Utah's Uintah and Ouray Reservation was approved Monday by the Senate subcommittee on Indian affairs and Tuesday by the Senate Interior and Insular affairs committee.

Ute Indians went to Washington last week to describe their plan to partition their tribe between mixed and full-bloods and to initiate a program leading to eventual full citizenship for all 1600 Uintah Basin Utes.

No objections to the program were voiced when the hearing was held on the bill in Washington last week.

Attending the hearings from Utah were Russell Cuch, and Conner Chapoose, full-blooded Ute delegates; Albert Harris, delegate for the mixed bloods; John S. Boyden, Salt Lake City attorney; R. O. Curry, Ute Tribal business manager; Ralph Gelvin, Phoenix, Arizona, area Indian director; and Harry Gilmore, superintendent of the Uintah-Ouray Reservation.

Sen. Arthur V. Watkins, chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, was hearing chairman.

Under the program the assets of the tribe would be divided equally between the 1,769 members, of which 439 are of mixed blood or less than 50 percent Indian. Early in the program there would be two tribal councils but gradually the council for the mixed-blood group would disappear as the members are absorbed by the white